

have seen, the super-ego results from introjection of the primitively conceived parents, parents who will bite and scratch and drown and burn one, in the way corresponding to the infant's primitive wishes. This introjected primitive parent in phantasy attacks one from the inside. The phantasies of some psychotics are extremely clear. They do literally feel that they are being cut in two, or burnt, or blasted to pieces, *from the inside*. Relief is gained from the worst terrors of this attack, or indeed from the less primitive, more developed feeling of guilt belonging to later levels of development, by projecting the super-ego again on to real persons outside ; who are then either accused of being cruel and condemnatory or actually expected to behave in such a way.

In the analysis of every adult, normal or neurotic, the projection mechanisms play an enormous part. The analyst does really at times appear to the patient as ready to attack him, to eat him up, to rob him of all his money, all his livelihood; or to be critical and condemning in a less primitive but no less certain way. In certain types of psychosis, for example paranoia, this mechanism is the chief characteristic of the mental life. The patient genuinely believes that other people are conspiring, e.g. to poison or rob him, or take away his reputation. As a general mental mechanism on the early levels of development, however, projection is perfectly normal, in fact the little child is only enabled to adapt to reality and secure a solid development of the ego by real experience, in so far as he is given the opportunity of projecting his super-ego again on to adults who are fit to receive it, that is to say, who will use this power over the child for satisfactory purposes. I was able to bring this out in discussing the development of *Friendliness and*

Co-operation?

¹ It will be noted that-at various points, I speak of the child's *dread of his» super-ego*. This may seem strange in view of the fact that the super-ego itself is held to arise from the need to escape the overwhelming pain of frustration. Both are true, however. In the first instance the child becomes a parent to himself in order to control those instincts which if given their head expose him to the pain of frustration, that is (to him) to an attack by the cruel, hostile parents in the external world. The function of the internalised parent is to save him from retribution from the external parents. But since the internalised parent, or super-ego, is itself built upon the most primitive aggressive tendencies, it becomes also a source of scarcely less dread and internal danger. The cure is, thus, very little better than the disease. The child then seeks to get rid of this internal danger by all the other mechanisms at his resource, and in the first instance, by *projection* of